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BERTHOD NAMED DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR IRS TAX EXEMPT AND GOVERNMENT ENTITIES DIVISION

WASHINGTON -- Commissioner of Internal Revenue Charles O. Rossotti has named Darlene Berthod deputy commissioner of the Tax Exempt and Government Entities (TE/GE) Division.

Berthod will assist TE/GE Commissioner Evelyn Petschek in overseeing the administration of complex provisions of tax law affecting about 3 million customers that control more than \$6.7 trillion in assets.

To better meet the needs of its customers, the IRS is in the midst of a top-to-bottom reorganization. At the core of the modernization effort is the replacement of the current geographic organizational structure with four operating divisions that serve particular groups of taxpayers. Three distinct taxpayer segments--pension plans, tax-exempt organizations and government entities--make up the Tax Exempt and Government Entities Division.

"The TE/GE Division will offer proactive pre-filing, filing and post-filing help to this growing segment of the taxpaying population," said Rossotti. "The division will benefit greatly from Darlene's invaluable skills and expertise."

Headquarters for the TE/GE Division will be established in Washington, D.C. in late 1999, with operations scheduled to begin in late 1999 or early 2000.

Berthod has served as IRS Deputy Chief Operations Officer since September 1998. Other positions held during her tenure with the IRS include: IRS Chief of Staff; National Director Personnel Division; Tax Systems Modernization Liaison to the Chief Financial Officer; and Director of the Pennsylvania District.

A graduate of Utica College, Berthod began her public service career in Brooklyn, New York as an IRS tax technician.